

REMARKS

Reconsidered of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

Claims 15 and 25 have been amended.

Claim 25 was objected to because of a typographical or grammar error. Claim 25 has been amended to correct this error.

Claims 15-18, 21 and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yamashita (US Patent No. 5, 946,978). Claim 15 has been amended to clarify that both the retention segment of the spring element, and its mating detent contour, are within and extend axially along the adjuster bore. On the contrary, the indexing spring 42 of Yamashita extends along the exterior of the adjusting member 40 such that the nose portion 95 of the spring 42 *necessarily* "will be deflected or biased radially *outwardly* from one of the channels 80 or 82 and then ride along the *exterior* surface or threads 78 of the adjusting member 40." see col. 6, lines 54-57 (emphasis added). Accordingly, Yamashita fails to disclose a detent mechanism that includes a radially interior detent contour extending axially within a bore the adjuster and a spring element having at least one retention segment extending axially within the bore. Therefore, the rejection of claim 15 should be withdrawn.

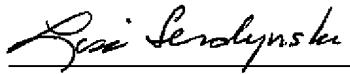
Claims 16-18, 21 and 22 were rejected as claim 15 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b). Since claims 16-18, 21 and 22 depend directly or indirectly from and contain all the limitations of claim 15 as amended, they are felt to overcome the obviousness rejection in the same manner as amended claim 15.

This amendment is believed to be fully responsive to the comments and suggestions of the Examiner and to place this application in condition for allowance. Favorable action is requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

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